

Airman convicted in special court-martial

2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Public affairs

A Columbus AFB airman was convicted in a special court-martial April 18.

Airman Michael Cucuzza, 14th Security Forces Squadron, pleaded guilty to selling government property, failing to obey a lawful order and fleeing apprehension.

These charges were in violation of Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 108 — sale, loss, damage, destruction or wrongful disposition of United States military property; Article 92 — failure to obey an order or regulation; and Article 95 — resistance, flight, breach of arrest and escape.

The judge, after accepting the guilty plea, sentenced Airman Cucuzza to eight-month’s confinement, a bad conduct discharge, forfeiture of \$767 dollars pay per month for eight months and reduction to E-1.

The charges arose after Airman Cucuzza accepted a pair of night-vision goggles, which were restricted to military use only, from a co-worker and then sold them on the Internet.

“Airman Cucuzza’s actions were inexcusable,” said 1st Lt. Tamona Bright, 14th Flying Training Wing trial counsel. “There is nothing good or right about selling restricted military property not meant for civilians on the Internet and profiting from the sale.”

After court-marital charges were given for the sale of government property, Airman Cucuzza violated an order not to drive on Columbus AFB — following a civilian driving-under-the-influence incident.

When the 14th SFS attempted to enforce the order, he sped away from a patrol car and ran away from a security forces officer who ordered him to stop.

“It is appropriate that he should be punished for these criminal offenses,” Lieutenant Bright said.

Airman Cucuzza was transported to the Lowndes County Adult Detention Center for the weekend until he was transferred to the long-term confinement facility at Keesler AFB, Miss.

He will serve the remainder of his sentence at Keesler AFB.

(Editor’s note: The 14th Flying Training Wing Judge Advocates office assisted in writing the article. Go to Page 5 to read a statement by Airman Cucuzza about his actions.)



Airman Alexis Lloyd

Col. Steve Schmidt, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, Rep. Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), Army Col. Robert Keyser, Mobile district commander of United States Army Corps of Engineers, and Jeffrey Rupp, Columbus mayor, break the soil at the new advanced radar approach control facility, a \$4.8 million project.

CAFB unearths future technology

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore
Public affairs

More than 40 people gathered for the unveiling of Columbus AFB’s recently completed corrosion control facility, as well as the future site of a new high-tech radar approach control facility Tuesday.

Distinguished visitors including Representative Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), and Columbus Mayor Jeffrey Rupp attended the back-to-back ceremonies.

The two projects, with a combined price tag of approximately \$10 million, will “enhance the effectiveness of Columbus AFB’s pilot training mission, and provide a quantum leap into the latest technology”, said Col. Steve Schmidt, 14th

Flying Training Wing commander.

The \$4.9 million corrosion control facility will be used by maintenance personnel to strip, sand and paint all 235 of the aircraft housed within the wing. Additionally, Columbus AFB has been designated a regional corrosion control facility for the Air Force, and will service aircraft from several nearby bases.

This state-of-the-art facility provides an environmentally safe and properly sized area for this type of operation and will directly contribute to a significant increase in the life of all aircraft serviced at Columbus AFB.

Immediately following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the crowd relocated to the future site of an advanced radar approach control facility. Commonly referred to as RAPCON, the \$4.8 mil-

lion construction project will house surveillance radar equipment, air traffic control consoles, precision approach status indicators, and training and workspace for air traffic controllers.

“The new tower will feature all of the latest technology and will be just another step for Columbus AFB,” said Representative Wicker.

Air traffic controllers will use the new facility to manage all of the air space within 5,000 square miles of Columbus, Miss., and provide approach, arrival and departure services for all base aircraft.

Planning for both facilities began as a joint effort between base civil engineers and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The new RAPCON facility is scheduled for completion by December 2003.

Enlisted spouses club undergoes reconstruction

Airman Alexis Lloyd
Public affairs

Columbus AFB Enlisted Spouses’ Club underwent changes to its charter April 7.

“The ESC will no longer contribute to base and community events — it will only gather for monthly socials,” said Lisa Pelfrey, 2002-2003 ESC president.

The change occurred when the ESC had its annual elections for club leadership positions.

The ESC meeting wasn’t properly attended “as blank ballots gleamed from the tables,” Ms. Pelfrey said. “The low participation of enlisted military spouses combined with active lifestyles of current ESC members left the membership no other choice but to transform the club.”

“Many bases have gone through this transformation. Spouse influence no longer counts for promotion into higher ranks as it did in the older days of the military.”

The ESC here first started off as the NCO Wives’

Club. Some of the club’s earliest scrapbooks date back to 1966.

The ESC has donated thousands of dollars to base events, the family support center, youth center, Happy Fund, Enlisted Widows Fund and many other organizations from money raised at the thrift store, silent auctions and bake sales.

The previous positions of president, vice president, treasurer and secretary are now eliminated as the club terminates charitable activities, restricting the club to monthly socials, Ms. Pelfrey said. Donations from the ESC to base and community events will no longer occur.

The ESC recently awarded three \$500 scholarships to local recipients. Those scholarship funds will be reserved until this fall, when checks are written to the schools.

This change also reflects the hours and management of the base thrift store. ESC members have volunteered their time and kept the thrift store open Tuesdays, as

well as co-managing the store with the officers spouses’ club. The thrift store schedule will now depend on the OSC and their volunteers.

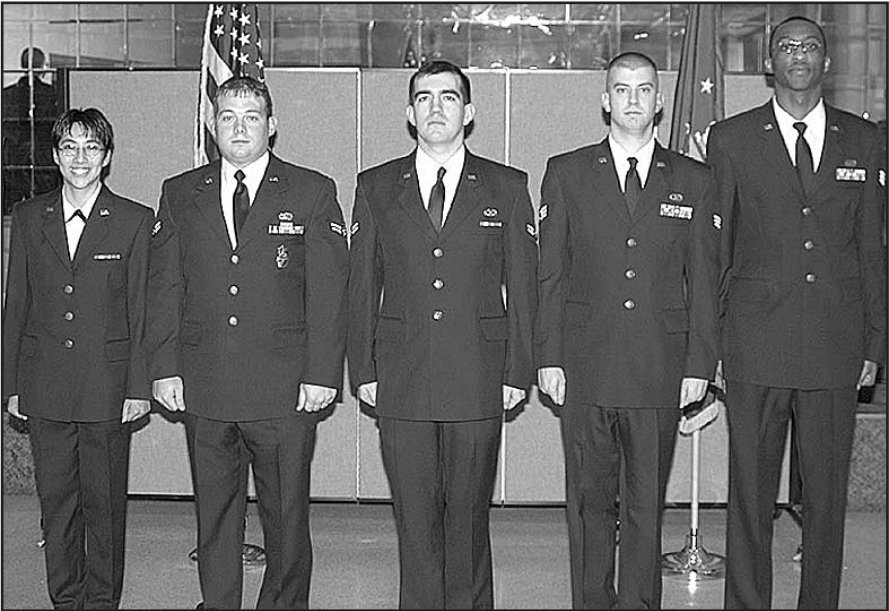
“The ESC will continue to meet as a social outlet to enlisted spouses,” Ms. Pelfrey said.

The socials are held at the community center on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise announced.

The temporary contact for information is Ms. Pelfrey at 434-8823 until June, when Judy Auld will become the permanent contact.

ESC decorations and other miscellaneous items will be sold at a sale is scheduled for June 7. More information will be available at a later date.

(Editor’s note: The thrift store is closed Tuesday and Thursday for a move. The store is moving to Building 345 next to the youth center and across from the enlisted dormitories. The re-opening is May 3. For more information, call 434-2954.)



Kevin Sisson

One more

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates the April Promotees. Pictured are: to airman: Elizabeth Terrazas, 14th Mission Support Squadron; to senior airman: Eric Klick, 14th Security Forces Squadron; Cordell Weeks, 14th Communications Squadron; to staff sergeant: Jonathan Clegg, 14th Operations Support Squadron; and Deralis Todd, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Not pictured are:

To major:
Jeffrey Campbell, 37th Flying Training Squadron; and James Roughneen, 37th FTS

To captain:
Tanya Dear, 14th Medical Support Squadron; David Garvin, 48th FTS; Gregory Miller, 37th FTS; and Keith Vollenweider, 14th MDSS

To first lieutenant:
Nicholas Amenta, 48th FTS; Ryan Andrews, 14th CES; James Crum,

48th FTS; Michael Kleven, 14th OSS; Jamison Riddle, 14th OSS; and Pete Sanchez, 48th FTS.

To technical sergeant:
Mark Kasic, 50th FTS

To staff sergeant:
Jeremy Keel, 14th Comptroller Flight

To airman first class:
Brandy McGhee, 14th Mission Support Squadron

To airman:
Jared Keith, 14th CES



Staff Sgt. Sean White

Staff Sgt. Jason Owens, Thunderbirds, cleans his aircraft from top to bottom so that Thunderbird red, white and blue can be seen for miles.

Wings over Columbus shapes up

Pam Warnken
Public affairs

Planners for the “Wings Over Columbus” 2003 Air Show scheduled for June 1 are meeting weekly to map out events commemorating 100 years of air power.

The world-famous Air Force Demonstration Team, the Thunderbirds, will once again highlight the skies over northern Mississippi.

“Things are shaping up and it looks like we’re going to have the best air show in this area this year,” said Lt. Col. Rick Johnson, the show director. “We’ve been contacted by several units deployed to the desert saying they want to stop by en route back to their home bases.”

Air Combat Commands F-15C single Ship demonstration team will also be on hand to showcase our Air Force’s modern aircraft. The line up will also feature several historic warbird flying demonstrations to showcase the journey aviation has taken from the early years to today. Static displays from the C-5 down to the T-37 trainer will be on the flight line and available for viewing. Food and souvenir concessions are being arranged now. Admission is free. Gates will open at 10 a.m. and the show ends at 5 p.m.

Guests may bring lawn chairs and wagons. No coolers, weapons, rollerblades, bicycles, skateboards or pets will be allowed. For more information call (662) 434-7202 or visit www.wingsovercolumbus.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

Law Day

The 14th Flying Training Wing legal office holds a special program for Law Day Thursday in the U.S. courtroom in the wing headquarters building. The program is for kindergarten through third grade students and is titled, "About the Courts." A session for home schoolers is at 9 a.m. and for all others at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Posters from the Law Day contest are on display in the exchange lobby Monday through Thursday. Today is the last day to enter the contest.

For more information, call the legal office at Ext. 7030.

New barber shop

The new barber shop in Building 268, Room 107 (the old helmet shop) is now open. Its hours are from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 1 to 7 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. For more information, call 434-6013.

Recruiting seminar

The Air Force Recruiting Screening team holds a one-hour briefing at 10:30 a.m. April 28 at the family support center. The briefing is for senior airmen through master sergeants with 16 years or less who want more information on recruiting services.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Victor Tennant at Ext. 7004 or visit the screening team's website is www.rs.af.mil/RTR.htm.

New common access identification cards are secure, ready

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — The high-tech identification common access card currently replacing the familiar green ID card worldwide is secure and proven in combat, despite some rumors to the contrary.

"Worries are unfounded" that the new ID cards are easily accessible to identity thieves or even hostile forces, said Chief Master Sgt. Ricky Arnold, survival, evasion, resistance and escape program manager at the Pentagon.

"These cards are not a risk to anyone's privacy or security," said the chief.

"We thoroughly researched the security risks before we even began to issue common access cards," said Maj. Gen. Richard Mentemeyer, director of operations and training at Air Staff.

"We were satisfied then, and recent events have reinforced our belief that

Dreams on Wings set for takeoff May 3

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore
Public affairs

Seriously ill children from across the country will experience the joy of flight as part of the second annual Dreams on Wings from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 3 at Birmingham International Airport, Ala.

The brain child of two local pilots, Dreams on Wings treats the children and their families to a limousine ride, pre-flight entertainment, and a 45-minute flying tour of the Birmingham area.

Volunteer pilots from the local region offer their services and privately owned aircraft free of charge for the event.

Event organizer and Columbus AFB Lear Siegler instructor Mike Hainsey first realized the potential for creating Dreams on Wings while participating in Angel Flight, a similar nonprofit organization that flies patients to medical treatments free of charge.

"I flew a young girl to St. Jude's Hospital in Memphis and she was having a ball," said Mr. Hainsey, "about 15 minutes before landing she got really quiet and stayed that way for the rest of the time."

Based on that experience, Mr. Hainsey decided to create a program that would allow seriously ill children to experience the joy of flying without the fear of an impending medical treatment.

While Mr. Hainsey, also a retired Air Force officer, has spent more than 16 years in Columbus for various assignments, his connection to the community also stems from one particularly trying period of time.

"My family received tremendous support from the base and the local community when my son battled cancer just a few years ago," said Mr. Hainsey. "Dreams on Wings is just one way to pass on the kindness we experienced and to carry on the circle of giving."



Courtesy photo

Two girls play with a heart balloon at the last Dreams on Wings event.

Dreams on Wings is open to all children battling serious illnesses and there are no geographic restrictions for participants. The only requirement for the program is that families must provide their own transportation to Birmingham.

Featuring Angel Flight and the Alabama Air National Guard as this year's sponsors, the organization hopes to fly more than 400 people at the event said Mr. Hainsey.

"It's actually a challenge finding children and families to offer this opportunity since we can't ask doctors for lists of their patients," said Mr. Hainsey. "We're working hard to get the word out in as many other ways as possible."

Families who are interested in participating, and individuals interested in volunteering can learn more by visiting www.dreamsonwings.org or by contacting Mr. Hainsey at dreamsonwings@cablone.net or 328-3533.

T-38A Talon takes last flight, C-model in full effect

2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Public affairs

The last three T-38A Talon aircraft flew with a T-38C leading April 18, ending an era of more than 30 years of T-38As flying at Columbus AFB.

"We orchestrated the last four-ship formation mission to finish up the last A-model students," said Lt. Col. Ben Cleveland, 50th Flying Training Squadron commander. "It was a nice way to say goodbye to the T-38A with an outstanding record."

During the planning phase of the mission the pilots were determined to make the last mission a success.

"Come hell or high water we will fly these last T-38A sorties," said Capt. Greg Hopkins, 50th FTS instructor pilot.

During the last flights, three students complete the training required to receive their silver wings and become a pilot.

"You look forward to finishing; then when the final flight is over it's a bit sad," said 1st Lt. Daniele Grano, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-08.

Lieutenant Grano had two honors given to him. He was on the last T-38A mission, and he was the last international student to fly on an A-model.

Since July 2002, Columbus AFB has been in a conversion process, taking A-



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

Lt. Col. Benjamin Cleveland, 50th Flying Training Squadron commander, tightens mask before the last T-38A Talon flight April 18.

model jets to Arizona for installation of advanced avionics packages.

After the installation, the T-38Cs returned to Columbus AFB to meet the same mission only better.

"With the leap in technology the IPs are very much in favor of the C-model, and we have only begun to tap the resource," Colonel Cleveland said. "Already we think it's easier to teach the students to

land the T-38C because of the information available from the heads-up display."

The new technology came with many perks but some multifaceted challenges arose.

"The C-model is definitely an improvement over the A-model with the advanced avionics package, although ergonomically it takes a little getting used to," Colonel Cleveland said. "But after a couple of sims

CGOC stocks local shelter with more than 10,000 goods

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore
Public affairs

The Columbus AFB Company Grade Officer Council delivered more than 10,000 nonperishable food and clothing items to the Mark Mitchell Children's Shelter for abused and neglected children April 18.

After three weeks of collecting donations from bins across base, the CGOC exceeded its initial goal of more than 7,000 items.

"We're really happy with the numbers and want to thank everyone who helped make this year's food and clothing drive a success," said 1st Lt. Brandon Sokora, CGOC vice-president. "Once you've visited the shelter, you realize what a worthy cause it is and how much of a difference you make for the children."

The donations will help feed and clothe resident children well into the fall season, said Melody Cantrell, shelter director.

"We are incredibly blessed to have such caring friends at the base," Ms. Cantrell said. "We can always count on the CGOC to come through for us."

Additional donations included children's toys and bicycles, as well as a two-year-old sofa and loveseat set

donated by a 14th Medical Group officer.

"When I saw the kind of furniture they were using, I realized the sofa and loveseat would be worth much more to them than for me to sell it locally," said 1st Lt. Jennifer Dolan, business operations and beneficiary services flight commander.

The shelter, located in a three-story building off of Highway 50, houses children from across the state who need respite from dangerous family situations. Shelter volunteers help the children heal their mental and physical wounds, while maintaining the ultimate goal of reestablishing a functional family, Ms. Cantrell said.

CGOC has been working continuously with the shelter for the past few months to improve facilities and publicize its mission.

Recent projects include creating and distributing blue ribbons for Child Abuse Prevention Month, re-tiling the shelter's kitchen floor and ensuring awareness of public events sponsored by Columbus AFB.

The shelter is always looking for volunteers to assist in projects ranging from organizing donated goods to general household repairs and lawn maintenance.

For more information about volunteering, please contact Ms. Cantrell at 327-5321.



2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore

Second Lt. Gary Moore, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, unloads canned goods.

Insight gives help to support military, civilian troops

Capt. Tammy Davidson
14th Flying Training Wing



Working in the equal opportunity chief position has given me unique insight into many of the issues that affect our personnel.

I was thrilled for this opportunity to submit to you, the BLAZE team, what troops (military and civilian) are looking for from their supervisors and how to keep a shop atmosphere positive and healthy.

Be visible. Few troops don't understand that the bosses are busy. They see you go to endless meetings and training sessions, and see you stuck under piles of paperwork in your office.

That is a big part of the reason why it means so much more when you make that special effort to visit your troops in their duty section, even if you can only visit on rare

occasions. We all work long and hard.

Ensuring your folks know that you appreciate and respect the work that they are doing and convey to them their importance in overall mission accomplishment, pays huge dividends in morale and mission accomplishment.

Recognize your folks. Overwhelmingly, one of the areas that individuals cite as most demoralizing is the lack of recognition. Personnel require satisfaction from their job to enjoy it and excel in it. Seeing the boss only when you mess up is demoralizing and demotivating.

When we ask about recognition in interviews, 70 percent of individuals tell us that their favorite form of recognition is just a simple "thank you" from the boss, the customer or a co-worker.

They just want to know that their hard work is noticed and appreciated. Never underestimate the importance of giving someone's work value.

Treat everyone equally and fairly. This may seem like a no-brainer, but few things tear a workgroup apart faster than the perception of favoritism. This

is a small base, and since many work in small shops or groups it is difficult sometimes not to become friends with subordinates.

Be aware of the perceptions that will develop with continued association with only one individual or group and work to eliminate these destructive perceptions. Ensure all of your actions are fair and impartial to all people under your supervision.

If you want to take a troop out to, lunch invite everybody or take everyone out on a one-on-one basis. Few expect supervisors to be lone wolves, but they do expect them to be impartial.

Check yourself from time to time, to make sure that you are acting consistently and fairly with all of your troops. I may not have the wealth of experience a colonel may have, but from my training and the data we have gathered over the last year and a half, keeping an eye on these three factors seem to be the key to successful supervisors.

Keep in mind these three tips to help ensure you take care of your subordinates, and they will take care of the mission and you.

Airman regrets choices made

Airman Basic Michael Cucuzza
14th Security Forces Squadron

We make decisions everyday without thinking about the consequences.

I am writing because I made a bad decision that I will pay for the rest of my life.

I hope I can influence at least one other airman to make good decisions. I hope that something good can come out of this and that others can learn from my mistakes and shortcomings as an airman.

To avoid the problems I had, when you are faced with a choice between doing what is right or what is wrong, stop and listen to that little voice in your mind and heart telling you to do what is right.

Sometimes you have to listen to that little whisper of a voice over the loud and clear voices of your friends and peers.

Even the small decisions matter because you can become comfortable doing something that is just "a little bit" wrong, which is not something to become comfortable with.

There have been times when I ignored the little voice in my head and heart because I was selfish and I thought no one was looking.

With all my heart I wish I could go back and make better decisions and do the right thing.

I can't — but you can. Please work hard to do the right thing all the time so you don't find yourself in my position.

STRAIGHT TALK LINE

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.

The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at www.columbus.af.mil. Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.



SILVER WINGS

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al copy should be submitted to the public affairs office, Bldg. 724, Columbus AFB, Miss., phone 434-7069, or e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil by 2 p.m. Friday. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary.

Silver Wings Editorial Staff
14th FTW commander
Col. Steve Schmidt
Chief, public affairs
Pam Warnken
Editor
Airman Alexis Lloyd

Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....	434-6013
Chaplain.....	434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....	434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....	434-2635
Clinic:	
Family Practice.....	434-2172
Appointment Desk.....	434-2273
After Hours Care.....	434-2273
Columbus Club.....	434-2489
Commissary.....	434-7106
Finance.....	434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....	434-7370
Inspector General.....	434-2927
Legal Office.....	434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....	434-2591
Security Forces.....	434-7129
Shoppette.....	434-6026

AT THE CHAPEL

Chapel schedule
Catholic
Sunday activities:
9:15 a.m. — Mass
10:30 a.m. — CCD
5 p.m. — Confessions
5:30 p.m. — Mass
Wednesday
11:30 a.m. — Mass

Protestant
Sunday activities:
9 a.m. — Sunday school
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship
Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. — Video Bible study supper
7:15 p.m. — Choir rehearsal
Thursdays
11:30 a.m. — Lunch Bible study

For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

AT THE MOVIES

The theater is closed for renovations until further notice. For more information, call the shoppette at 434-6026.

COMMISSARY

The commissary hours are:
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. — Thursdays
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Saturdays
Closed — Mondays

CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call 2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett for more information at Ext. 7065.

Weekdays
9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.
Air Force Television News
Monday through May 2
9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
College Level Examination Program Tapes:
English Composition

FAMILY SUPPORT



(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext. 2790.)

Volunteer coffee: A volunteer appreciation coffee is at 2 p.m. May 2 at the family support center.

There will be snacks, awards and door prizes to show appreciation to those who've volunteered on base and in the local community. Reserve a spot by Thursday. For more information, call Lee Chouinard.

Videophones: Videophones are available for family members of deployed, TDY or remote military.

Children and war: The family support center offers their services to help parents explain war and deployments to their children.

Stop by the FSC to pick up complete packages to help make children less confused.

Baby bunch delay: The baby bunch group meetings have been delayed until September. For more information, call the family support center.

Calling cards: Free \$20 valued phone cards are offered to all people going on contingency TDYs for 30 days or longer. This is sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society. Phone cards must be issued to military personnel. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman.

BASE NOTES



Playgroup: The Mommy and Me playgroup is from 10 to 11 a.m. Mondays at the youth center.

This is a weekly playgroup for ages 18 months to 3 years and their parents. There is no cost.

Fathers are always welcome. For more information, call Birgit Coslett at 434-5876.



Airman Alexis Lloyd

Mosquito spraying

Craig Hoke, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron pest controller, checks the fogging machine before going to spray housing. Foggings are done at dusk Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The 14th CES advises people to stay away from the truck, especially children. For more information, call Ext. 7341.

OSC social: The Columbus AFB Officers' Spouses Club deadline to sign up for the next social is noon May 6.

The social is at 6:30 p.m. May 13 at the Columbus Club.

The menu is lasagna with salad for \$11.50. Club members receive a \$2 discount.

For reservations or more information, call 434-5511 or e-mail davidjeastman@cableone.net.

CCAF graduation: The Community College of the Air Force Graduation has been changed to 1 p.m. May 15 at the Columbus Club. For more information, call 2562.

EMCC courses: The East Mississippi Community College summer course schedules are available for pick up at the education center or can be downloaded at www.emcc.cc.ms.us.

Vacation bible school: Registration for vacation bible school is open until June 2.

This year's theme is SCUBA — Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure.

The VBS lasts from 9 a.m. to noon June 2 through June 6.

Volunteers are needed for this pro-

gram. For more information or to volunteer, call Joy Garrison at Ext. 2500.

Car care: The auto hobby shop offers basic car care classes.

The classes teach oil changes, tire rotations and many other do-it-yourself skills. For more information or to sign up for a class, call Ext. 7842.

Civilian tuition assistance: Appropriated fund civilian employees thinking about taking summer classes at nearby colleges or online may be eligible to have course costs covered under the Air Force's civilian tuition assistance program.

The base has about \$3,700 remaining to spend this year on civilian higher education. For more information on applying for this opportunity, call Curtis Donald at Ext. 2562.

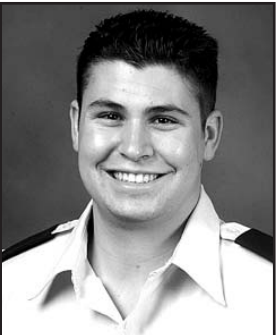
Fire safety: Storage of gas cans and lawn mowers or any power equipment that runs on gasoline, are prohibited from being stored in the same area as the hot water heater in military family housing.

For more information contact the fire prevention section at Ext. 2269 or Ext. 2270

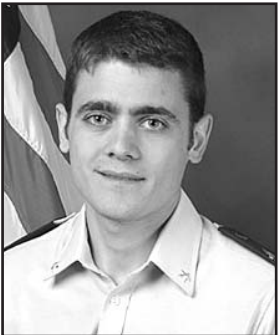
SUPT Class 03-08 earns silver wings



Capt. Jeffrey Dill
Hagerstown, Md.
B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



1st Lt. Nicholas Amenta
Westlake Village, Calif.
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



1st Lt. Daniele Grano
Rome, Italy
TBD, Italian AF, Italy



1st Lt. Gino Toffoli
Padova, Italy
HH-3F, Italian AF, Italy



2nd Lt. Kevin Crofton
Peachtree City, Ga.
F-16, Kelly AFB, Texas



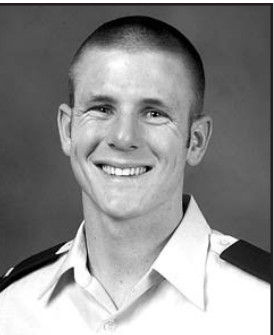
2nd Lt. Joshua Ellithorpe
Clifton Park, N.Y.
E-8, Robins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Michael Geiger
Spokane, Wash.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



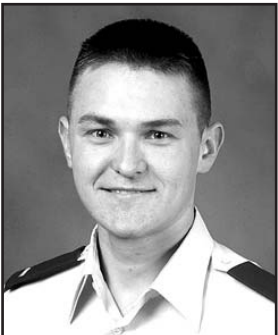
2nd Lt. Geremy Goldsberry
Omaha, Neb.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



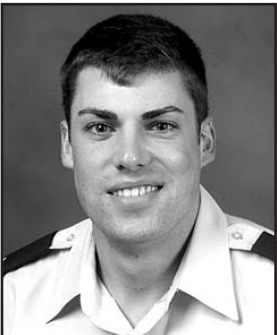
2nd Lt. Jonathan Kassebaum
San Marcos, Calif.
F-15C, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Robert Lowe III
McDonough, Ga.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jacob Luttermann
Gilbertsville, Ky.
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



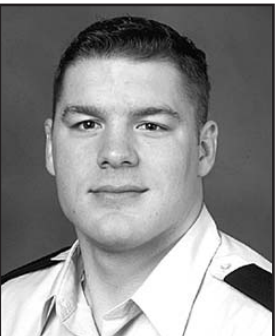
2nd Lt. David McDonald
Charlotte, N.C.
KC-135, Robins AFB, Ga.



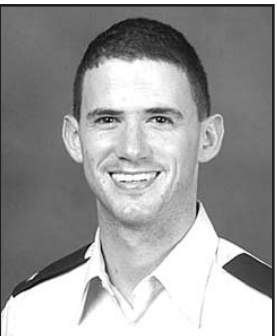
2nd Lt. Kevin Pugh
Birmingham, Ala.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



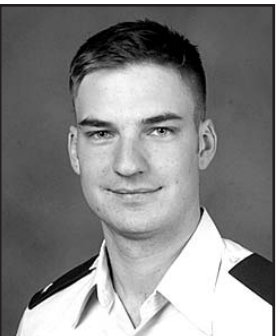
2nd Lt. Jeff Quick
Batesville, Ind.
KC-135, Kadena AFB, Japan



2nd Lt. Vince Sherer
Portland, Ore.
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



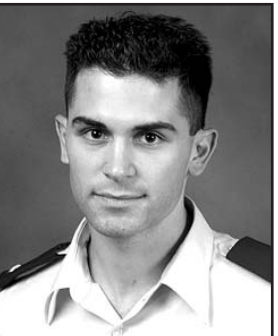
2nd Lt. Phillip Smith
Tampa, Fla.
F-15E, Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.



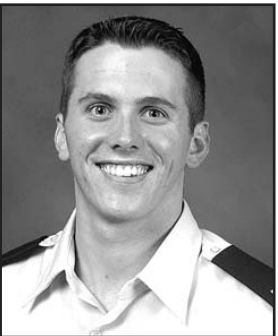
2nd Lt. Eric Trabandt
Colorado Springs, Colo.
B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Erin Van Oosten
Mattawan, Mich.
C-21, Andrews AFB, Md.



2nd Lt. Brian Vasquez
San Jose, Calif.
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Christopher Wilson
Wheeling, W.V.
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Scott Wolford
Costa Mesa, Calif. (AFRC)
C-5, Travis AFB, Calif.

Thirty-three officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-08 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the theater.

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Roger Brady, director of operations at Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

General Brady is responsible for policy and procedures for worldwide air operations and transportation functions assigned to the command, to include cargo and passenger movement, Civil Reserve Air Fleet, command and control, and training and standardization programs.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Capt. Jeffrey Dill, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Robert Lowe III, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented 2nd Lts. Kevin Crofton, T-38, and Jacob Luttermann, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Captain Dill, Lieutenant Lowe, 2nd Lts. Michael Geiger, T-1, and Phillip Smith, T-38, were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine, subsonic T-37 Tweet. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

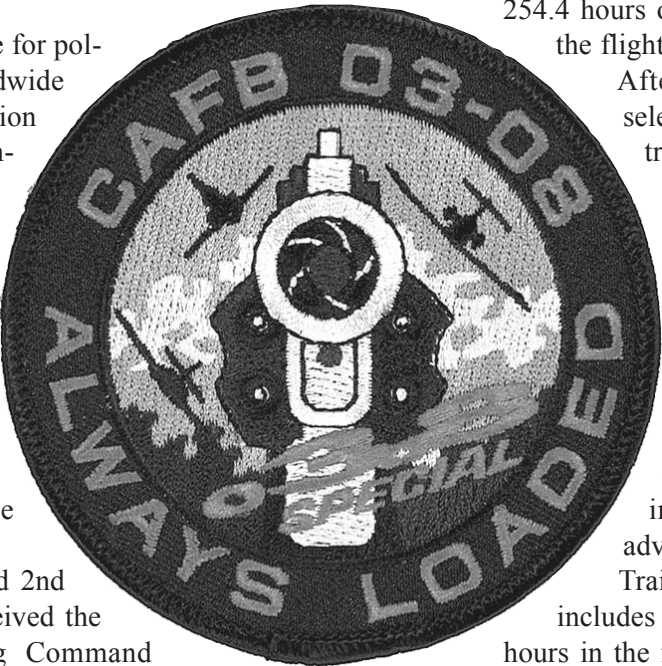
Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots. *(Editor's note: The class's pilot partners are Patti Johnson of Century 21 Realtors and Giribaldi's Mexican Restaurant.)*



Club members, their families can win scholarships

Pam Wickham
Marketing director

The deadline to sign up for the seventh annual Air Force Services Club Membership Scholarship program is July 15.

Six scholarships will be awarded — first prize is \$6,000, second is \$5,500, third is \$4,500, fourth is \$3,500, fifth is \$3,000 and sixth is \$2,500.”

Current club members and their families — including spouses, children and stepchildren — who’ve been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry during the 2003 fall

term as a part-time or full-time student are eligible to apply for scholarships.

Grandchildren are eligible if they are a dependent of the club member. Student enrollment status may involve either undergraduate or graduate curriculum.

These prizes are made possible through commercial sponsorship provided by First USA Bank, Coca-Cola and MasterCard.

Entries must include the club member’s name, last four digits of club membership

card number, base, club name and the entrant’s full name with mailing address and phone number. If the entrant is

someone other than the club member, state his or her relationship to the member and provide his or her social security number.

Entrants must provide an essay of 500 words or less on the following topic: “Air Force Clubs — Help Us Make Members First.” Nominees must also

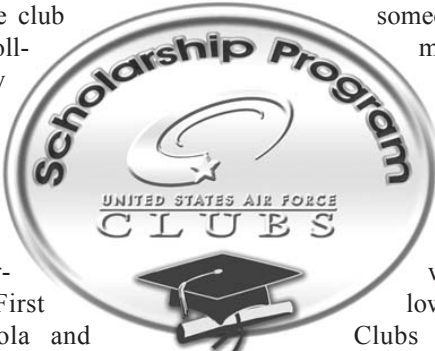
provide a single page summary of their long-term career and life goals and previ-

ous accomplishments. The summary may include civic, athletic and academic awards and accomplishments.

All entries must be submitted to Louella Anderson, 14th Services Division chief. Each base may submit up to two scholarship entries. Entries should be submitted on white bond paper with one-inch margins and typed in 12-point Arial, Times New Roman or equal, single-spaced with double spacing between paragraphs.

Final scholarship awards for the 2003/2004 school year will be announced by Oct. 1.

For more information, please see the Air Force Services website at www.p.afsv.af.mil.



Services provides recreational outlet

American Cafe open: The Columbus Club’s American Cafe opens from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays and is open to all ranks.

Club members receive a \$2 discount. Call Ext. 2489.

All ranks bingo: Games begin at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom. People play five \$75 regular games, one \$125 odd and even coverall game and a \$1,000 progressive jackpot game. Consolation prize is \$150 if the jackpot does not go in 51 numbers or less. Admission fees for nonmembers are \$5. Payout is based on a minimum number of players. Call Ext. 2489.

Karaoke night: Be the star of the show at the enlisted lounge tonight starting at 9 p.m. tonight at the enlisted lounge.

Youth center members appreciation night: All youth center members are invited to this free program offered from 6 to 8 p.m. today. Call Ext. 2504.

Teen dance: The youth center offers a preteen dance from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday. Cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2504.

Beale Street music festival: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to the Memphis, Tenn. Beale Street music festival May 2 to May 4. The festival features all types of music to include blues, rock, gospel, rhythm and blues, soul and alternative. Cost is \$125 per person and includes transportation, two nights lodging (dou-

ble occupancy). Tickets to the music festival are sold separately. A \$50 deposit is required when registering. Limited seating is available. Call Ext. 7858.

Enlisted lounge opening Saturdays: Beginning May 3, the enlisted lounge will be open Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Call Ext. 2489.

Youth center star search: Register by May 3 for the star search weekend beginning at 5 p.m. May 16 to May 17 for ages 9 to 12. Call Ext. 2504.

Canton flea market: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Canton, Miss., May 8 for one the largest flea markets and crafts fair in this region. The day will be filled with crafts, vendors, specialty item vendors and foods of all sorts.

Cost is \$20 per person which includes transportation. Call Ext. 7858 for a reservation.

Swimming pool information: Beginning May 12, the outdoor recreation program will begin taking reservations for pool parties, and swim lessons. Pool passes may also be purchased at this time. The pool is scheduled to open Memorial Day weekend. Call Ext. 7858.

Preteen lock-in: Registration ends Monday for this all-night event for ages 9 to 12. Cost is \$10 and includes mid-night meal, snacks, breakfast, movies, games, music and many other activities throughout the night. Lock-in starts at 10 p.m. May 17 and

ends at 7 a.m. the next morning. Call Ext. 2504.

Crafts classes: The skills development center offers classes for both youth and adult. Morning, afternoon and evening classes in May for adults include making a mosaic stepping stone May 6, a garden angel May 13, an Uncle Sam door hanging May 20 and a ribbon woven pillow May 27.

Youth classes include making a gift for Mom May 7, a wooden airplane bar-rette holder May 14, a mosaic garden stone May 21 and a placemat May 28. Youth classes are offered at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Register at least four days prior to class date. Call Ext. 7836.

Kids Kamp 2003: Registration for this summer program is at the youth center for children ages 5 to 12. A \$10 per week deposit is required the day of registration. Weekly fees are based on family income. Program begins May 27. Call Ext. 2504.

Whitewater rafting trip: Join the information, ticket and travel staff down the white waters of the Ocoee River in Tennessee June 7 to June 9.

Cost is \$95 per person and includes two meals, two nights lodging, transportation, guide service and river run. A \$50 deposit is required when registering. Call Ext. 7858.

Canoe trip: The outdoor recreation program offers a canoe trip June 14 on the Buttahatche River. Cost is \$15 per person and includes canoe rental and lunch. Call Ext. 7858.

Re-enactment: The 137th annual recreation of the solemn gesture that four Columbus women performed April 25, 1866, which evolved in to the nation’s Memorial Day is at 4 p.m. today at Friendship Cemetery.

Murder mystery: A mystery dinner theater begins at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Hogarth Dining Center Banquet Room at the Mississippi University for Women.

Tickets cost \$25 and includes dinner. The table that solves the mystery first wins a prize. For more information, call 329-7267 or 329-7333.

Job fair: The Northeast Mississippi Job Fair sponsored by East Mississippi Community College-Golden Triangle Campus at Mayhew, Miss., at the Center for Manufacturing Technology Excellence is from 10 a.m. noon for students and from 1 to 4 p.m. for the public Tuesday. Meet more than 30 employers with employment opportunities. For more information, call Jackie Hale at 243-1925.

Prayer: The National Day of Prayer is

Thursday. A community-wide observance is at 6 p.m. at the Trotter Convention Center. The event is sponsored by Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. For more information, call Doug Bedgood at 328-3042.

Senior Citizens’ Day: Discounts, free gift wrapping, door prizes and more for those 50 years and above is May 6 at McRae’s department store. For more information, call 329-9500.

Starkville air show: Eagles Over Mississippi Air Show in Starkville is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 10 at the George M. Bryan Field in Starkville.

The air show features vintage planes from World War II including a P-38 Lightning — the only current touring P-38 in the world — and the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation’s Sky Soldiers. Admission is \$5.

Big band brunch: Columbus native Jimmy Jarret and a big band headline at a May 11 brunch and dance at Streetcar Productions in Gateway Center, East Columbus. For more information, call 240-1832.



Courtesy photo

Festival Fun

A band performs at the Market Street Festival. This year’s festival is May 3 in downtown Columbus with artist booths, food, bands and family fun. For more information about the festival, call 328-6305.

Columbus Club Lunch Buffet

Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
\$7.95 per person -- Club members receive \$2 discount -- Cost includes vegetable, tossed salad and beverage
Ala carte menu also available

Today
Fried catfish
Beef stir fry
Peach cobbler

Tuesday
Lasagna
Spaghetti
Assorted cakes

Monday
Fried chicken
Salisbury steak
Peach cobbler

Wednesday
Meat loaf
Chicken pot pie
Apple cobbler

Thursday
Soup, salad and potato bar



Airman Alexis Lloyd

Serving it up

Ryan Walsh, 37th Flying Training Squadron volleyball team, serves the ball during the game against the 41st FTS Wednesday. The 41st FTS won the match winning 15-6 and 15-12.

SHORTS

Racquetball tournament

A “Play When You Can” tournament starts Thursday and lasts through May. Trophies are presented to the tournament winner and runner up. Register by Monday at the fitness center.

Combat fun run-walk

Take in a 1.5-mile walk or a 3-mile run at 6 a.m. May 7 at the fitness and sports center. This is a competition between squadrons. Teams will consist of six people, with a minimum of two women per team. Participants compete in their BDUs and will compete in the arena of pushups, sit-ups and a timed run. Call Ext. 2772.

Mothers Day Special

Moms bowl for \$1 per game and free shoes from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 11. All others pay regular price.

Bowling championships

The Columbus AFB bowling championships are May 8 and May 15. The two divisions are handicap or scratch. Entry is \$10. for more information, call the bowling center at Ext. 2426.

Bench press competition

A bench press competition begins at 9 a.m. May 17 at the fitness and sports center. Sign ups are accepted until the event begins. There will be seven weight categories for men and four for women. All competitors will receive a free T-shirt and trophies are awarded to winners in each category. For more information or to sign up, call Ext. 2772.

BARGAIN LINE